VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION

ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2423)

निर्धारित समय: **तीन घंटे**
Time Allowed: ***Three Hours***

अधिकतम अंक: **250**
Maximum Marks: ***250***

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

General Instructions

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 1138117

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Archit Dangre

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English
English

तारीख
Date
26th August, 2023

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)
GENERAL STUDIES (Paper II)

केंद्र
Centre
Delhi.

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

	महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश	Important Instructions
	उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।	**Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.**
1	(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet
2	अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।	Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.
3	परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4	उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5	उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6	प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।	Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.
7	प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8	यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.

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प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks		प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	
1			11		
2			12		
3			13		
4			14		
5			15		
6			16		
7			17		
8			18		
9			19		
10			20		
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)			उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)		
सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B)					

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सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2423)

निर्धारित समय: **तीन** घंटे Time Allowed: **Three** Hours	अधिकतम अंक: **250** Maximum Marks: **250**

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

*कुल **बीस** प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो **हिंदी** और **अंग्रेजी** दोनों में छपे हैं।*

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

*There are **TWENTY** questions printed both in **HINDI** and in **ENGLISH**.*

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. उपयुक्त उदाहरणों की सहायता से, चर्चा कीजिए कि पर्यावरणीय दबाव समूह भारत में पर्यावरण नीतियों के संबंध में सार्वजनिक भागीदारी और अनुक्रियाशीलता को कैसे बढ़ाते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
With suitable examples, discuss how environmental pressure groups enhance public participation and responsiveness with regard to environmental policies in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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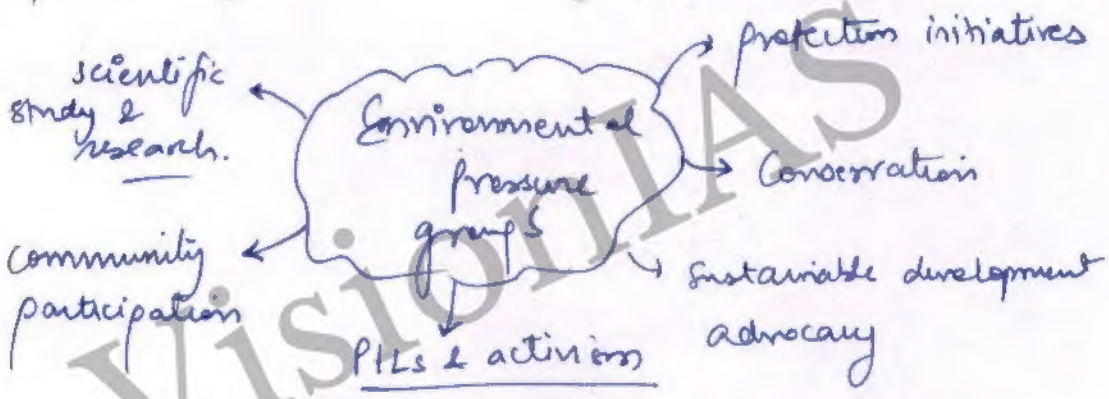
Pressure groups are an important part of civil society that shape public policy via varied action eg lobbying, protesting & mobilizing people etc.



Enhance public participation & responsiveness

(1) Mobilize people for conservation of natural resources eg Narmada Bachao Andolan

(2) Community participation is ensured by people solidarity eg Chipko

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movement with help of Sundarlal Bahuguna

(3) Active PILs (Public Interest litigation) filing for judicial intervention

eg MC Mehta Case for protection of environment

eg Vellore Citizen forum – development of "polluter pays principle"

(4) further extend the scope of fundamental rights by eg Menaka Gandhi for clean living conditions etc.

(5) Support public policy on environment & research based initiatives eg Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) advocated for vulture conservation by conducting first vulture consus in India

eg other NGOs for conservation of Gangetic Dolphin, Great Indian Bustard, Tigers etc

Hence, a clean environment along with community participation is essential for realizing SDGs & DPSPs as well

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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2. हाल ही में, उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा सेक्स वर्क को एक 'पेशे' के रूप में स्वीकार किया जाना, भारत में सेक्स वर्कर्स के लिए बुनियादी अधिकार और समानता सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में पहला कदम है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recent acknowledgment of sex work as a 'profession' by the Supreme Court is merely the first step in ensuring basic rights and equality for sex workers in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Recently, unsolicited sex work of the women's own accord was given recognition by the Supreme Court. However, coercive sexual work was regarded as a criminal offense.

First step of ensuring rights

↳ Sex workers have poor conditions of living
→ oppression from their managers
→ delibated living condition, unsanitary and light areas.
→ high prevalance of diseases like HIV, Syphilus, HPV etc.
→ not covered under many schemes as beneficiary
→ no security of livelihood., no social security

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→ societal stigma.

SC recognition will ensure

- draw public & govt. attention to plight of sex workers
- help form policy & scheme initiatives for upliftment & development.
- help create awareness on sexual contraceptive devices – reduce disease spread.
- Society will shed the orthodox baggage & accept them as "victims" not as "immoral" people.

Steps that could further benefit

- Active involvement of civil society eg SAHELI, ANVESHI, Stree Sangathan etc
- Vocational & other skill training under Kaushal Vikas Yojana could be considered
- Sensitize police & law enforcement towards their plight – focus on people policing (Mulla Committee)

Hence, Art 21 entails right to life & to live with dignity & sex workers should be accorded with the same.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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3. भारत में नि:शुल्क कानूनी सहायता प्रदान करने और कानूनी जागरूकता फैलाने में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों (DLSAs) द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the role played by District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in providing free legal aid and disseminating legal awareness in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

DLSA, SLSA, NALSA etc all are established under the provisions of Legal Services Act 1989.

Its established in pursuit of Article 39A to provide free & affordable legal aid to those who cannot afford it.

Role played by DLSA

- Work at district level to provide legal aid facilities to eligible persons like eg victims of disaster, women, SC/ST, industrial labour etc.
- raise awareness about the provisions of alternate dispute resolution mechanisms under Lok Adalats etc.

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→ settle disputes in short intervals on basis of principle of natural justice & avoiding complex CrPC & evidence act provisions by promoting ADR

→ Take care of paperwork, stamp fees, legal fees, documentation etc for eligible beneficiaries to ensure hassle free legal aid.

→ Coordinate with HCLSC, SLSA etc to organize days & sessions for alternate dispute resolution

Issues
- → High vacancy
- → lack of 3Fs
  - → fund
  - → functions
  - → functionaries
- → ADR – no binding awards so prolonged litigations
- → low public participation in these bodies.

Hence, ensuring justice is prime mandate of these bodies & must coordinate with the Higher bodies like State Legal Services Authority to provide legal services.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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4. "कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के संकेंद्रण के कारण, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली अपनी ही सफलता का शिकार हो गई है, जिससे इसकी वैधता पर सवाल उठने लगे हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
"The collegium system has become a victim of its own success, with the concentration of power in the hands of a few, leading to questions about its legitimacy." Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Collegium system was established in the 3rd judges Case. It consists of the CJI & 4 senior most judges of the SC.

Successes of collegium
- → Independence of judiciary maintained
- → Seperation of executive
- → no arbitrary inference in judiciary only judges take administrative decisions of judiciary.
- → upholds idea of an uncommitted judiciary.

Victims of its own success

→ Concentration of powers in the hands of judges to make decisions on appointments, administration courts, transfers.

→ Appointments are reported to have been made on nepotistic, favouritism.

→ Judicial insularity has led to emboldened & uncivil behaviour eg sexual harassment charges against a CJI, Justice Kamans behaviour of passing conviction on colleagues.

→ "Touch me not" attitude of judiciary, denies any reformative action on its functioning eg 99th Constitutional amendment Act, NJAC was declared unconstitutional

→ Leads to phenomenon like Judicial overreach, high handed attitude of judges, populist judgements etc.

Way forward

→ "Search-cum-select" committee as suggested by Law Minister

→ Involvement of executive at some stage in validating judges eg In USA senate approves of appointment.

→ Constitutional morality has to be the norm followed by both executive & judiciary

Hence, as per Article 50 seperation of executive from judiciary needs to be done but fairly

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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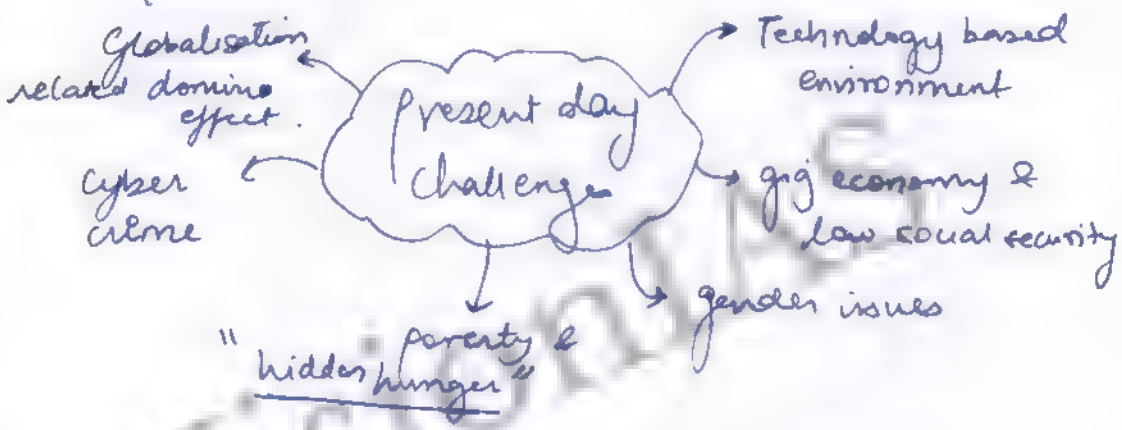
5. "सिविल सेवा सुधारों को वर्तमान दौर की चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भर्ती और मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण से आगे बढ़ाया जाना अनिवार्य है।" विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
"Civil services reforms must go beyond recruitment and standardised training to cope with the present day challenges." Analyse. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Civil services was termed as the "steel frame" of public administration as per Sardar Vallabhai Patel.



Civil services must go beyond

→ Specialisation of civil servants in domain specific areas of administration is important (Hota Committee recomendation)

→ Also 360° appraisal, regular learning of new technology to deal with e-governance challenges

→ Civil servants must go beyond traditional approaches to social security

↳ take an innovative approach eg "Collector Bro" in Kozhikode "find your city") – Smita Sabharwal IAS.

People skills needed to persuade people

→ Lateral entry of domain specific policy making is desirable to counter new areas like – cyber crime, data protection etc (Baswan Committee also recomended)

→ Need "knowledge management system" & public committed civil service (2nd ARC)

→ EQ & IQ both must be adequately developed to deal with present day gender issues, transgender rights, online bullying etc.

Hence, civil service must go beyond its traditional role & can make use of mission Karmayogi, DIKSHA portal for upskilling.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

6. सामाजिक प्रभाव बॉण्ड्स जैसे परिणाम-आधारित वित्त मॉडल में वास्तविक रूप से परिवर्तन लाने और बड़े पैमाने पर सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता विद्यमान है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Outcome-based finance models such as social impact bonds have the potential to truly catalyse change and deliver socio-economic impact at scale. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Outcome based finance models also called social impact bonds or "pay for success" bonds were recently mooted by CEBI for the creation of a social stock exchange (SSE).

Potential to catalyze change

- easy & efficient way to generate capital for social welfare expenditure.
- Regulated stock exchange will ensure transparency, accountability & legitimacy of expenditure
- mandatory social audits ensure investors confidence maintained in the markets capacity.

→ Avenue for investment of CSR funds for companies to promote social welfare.

उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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delivers socio-economic impact

- Funds provided to civil society & FPO's (for profit organizations) could be used in education, health sectors & improve standard of living of poor
- Compliment state measures to address issues of upliftment of downtrodden sections of society. eg Manual Scavengers, beggars etc.
- Ensure target based achievement of goals as investors would only invest more if tangible results are seen.

∴ Incentivize effective action.

Hence, these are viable & desirable instruments that can be used for upliftment of society & achievement various SDGs like 1 (poverty), 2 (hunger), 3 (education) etc

7. प्रत्येक वर्ष ग्रेजुएट होने वाली और कार्यक्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने वाली महिलाओं की संख्या के मध्य का व्यापक अंतराल एक गंभीर समस्या है जिसे हल किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The wide gap between the number of females graduating every year and those entering the workspace is an issue of paramount importance that needs to be addressed. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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The urban female labour force participation rate as per NSO (PLFS survey) is around 22%. India's workforce has around 52 crore active workers with overall LFPR of 42%.

Gap in labour force participation of women

- Post graduating many women decide to go for higher education. Hence not seen in workforce
- Many women restricted by family structure, marriage, pregnancy (19 yrs avg)
- Patriarchy & women confined to spaces of homes

→ Migration of men leads to "ruralization of women & old", "feminization of agriculture" - not recorded by surveys

→ poor health conditions post natal disincentivize jobs for women - 50% suffer from anemia

→ legislations like Maternity Benefit Act give 84 days of leave for maternity

↳ employers prefer not to hire women as have to give pay without work.

Other reasons - Survey deficit / flaws

→ women household work not counted as labour as per surveys

→ domestic activities like livestock rearing etc clubbed with house work - thus not recorded.

Way forward

→ Provisions for greater employment opportunities for women eg PM Kaushal Vikas & ASEEM portal

→ financial provisions for women eg Mahila Samman Patra (Budget 23)

→ Awareness & shedding gender bias of women as weaker "sex"

As per ADB involvement of women can significantly increase gdp by 4 times current value.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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8. भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक नियोजन के लिए एक अद्यतित और कार्यात्मक नागरिक पंजीकरण प्रणाली (CRS) अनिवार्य है। देश में CRS प्रणाली में सुधार हेतु केंद्र सरकार के हालिया कदम के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

An up to date and functional Civil Registration System (CRS) is essential to the socio-economic planning in India. Discuss in the light of the recent move of the Central government in revamping the CRS system in the country. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Civil Registration System is a mandatory exercise to record births & deaths only at the place of occurence & within a period of 20 days. This is legal responsibility of every citizen.

Its under the purview of Registrar General of India

Essential for socio-economic planning

- Adequate data based information on beneficiaries for govt.
  - efficient & precise resource allocation
- eliminate issues of "ghost beneficiaries"
- make inheritance, title deeds & other process much more clearer & transparent
  - Sometimes fraud committed by registering property in name of dead person

→ Tailor made area based public interventions can be made to ensure "reaching the last mile" (Saptarshi Budget pillar)

→ ensure financial, digital & inclusive growth by adressing all sections of society. eg Allocation of Aadhar number, ration cards etc.

Revamping CRS

- Inclusivity
- Data security
- Technology (ICT) driven
- Transparent
- Global best practices

Steps to further transform

→ provision to put digital infrastructure on blockchain – immutable & decentralized no tampering possible

→ Incentivize registration under CRS eg requirement of certificate for application to govt schemes etc.

→ Raise awareness & involve civil society, NGOs to help in data collection & surveying activities.

Hence, CRS is a crucial aspect as Economic Survey say "Data as a public good."

उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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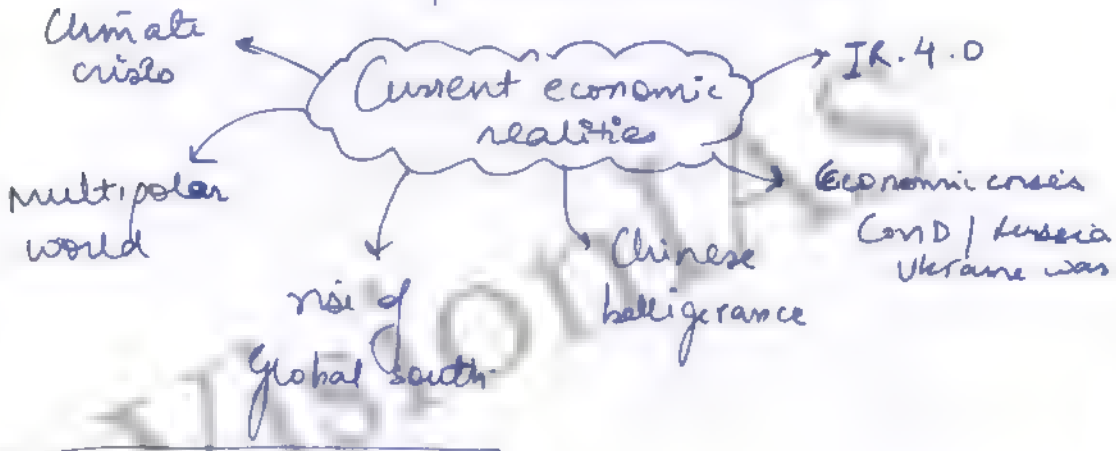
9. यदि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) को वर्तमान आर्थिक वास्तविकताओं के साथ समायोजित होना है तो इसमें सुधार के प्रमुख क्षेत्र कौन-से होंगे? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the key areas of reform if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has to align with the current economic realities? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recently PM Modi called for transformation & reformation of multilateral institutions in the spirit of reflecting the global order & its present realities.



Key areas of Reform

(1) IMF must shed dominance of West & must stop conditionalities to favour free trade concessions to loaners etc

↳ change of reality from Washington Consensus → Coonsall Consens → "New Washington Consensus"

(2) Inequality in allocation of Quota system - be fixed

→ ambiguous parameters eg size of economy, strength of currency

(2) Presidentship traditionally been under USA. Organizational structure needs to be tweaked → rotation basis as multipolar world.

(3) Global South needs more & better representation

(4) SDR baskets must include the Ruppee as well. Indian economy is 5th largest (more than $3.5 trillion) & 3rd largest in terms of PPP (purchasing price parity).

(5) Organizational provisions for dispute resolutions & grievance redressal need to be put in place.

(6) Climate financing to LDCs (least developed countries), VICs (vulnerable Island countries) must be provided "no strings attached"

Hence, with changing world order IMF has called india a "swing state" that can swing balance in favour wherever it lands. Thus, IMF must reflect the voice of Global south & India as its strong member.

उम्मीदवारों के इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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10. हाल के वर्षों में, पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंध भू-राजनीति के दायरे से आगे निकलकर भू-अर्थशास्त्र के आयाम तक पहुंच गए हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In recent years, India's relationship with West Asia has evolved from the confines of geopolitics to expanse of geoeconomics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India & West Asia have been traditionally very strong partners in terms of trade & travel including India's majority energy needs.

India's geopolitics with West Asia
- → Look West Policy
- → Dehyphenated policy (Israel & Palestine issue)
- → Only country with "Trilateral" good relation with Israel, Iran & Saudi Arabia
- → Suez Canal & Str. of Hormuz security for trade

Expanse to geoeconomics
- → 80% of energy need fulfilled from Qatar, Saudi, Iran, Oman etc
  we import 85% of crude oil
- → PTAs signed with UAE
  high export of gold, jewellery &
- → Export & trade routes eg Chahbahar port in Iran, INSTC through west Asia

people from India to UAE

- Acceptance of India's payment standards of UPI, BHIM.
- High degree of immigration — huge remittances from gulf region
  India highest remittances in the world ($111 Billion)
- Energy security partnerships eg Egypt for solar energy
- Sale of defense equipment eg Drones & UAVs from Israel.

Issues
- Labour systems eg Kafala Nilagrat system oppressive.
- High Current Account deficit of $ 66 Billion
- domestic religious issues affect trade relations eg Nupur Sharma case.

Way forward
- follow idea of S. Jaishankar — "leverage convergences & manage divergences"
- soft power & diaspora relations to improve perception.

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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11. हितधारकों को नवाचार और प्रभावशीलता में वृद्धि हेतु प्रेरित करने के लिए स्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ावा देने में भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The role of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is significant in furthering healthy competitiveness aimed at inspiring stakeholders to innovate and augment effectiveness. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Competition Comission India is the main watchdog for competitive market in India assuring non-monopolization & free access to small businesses to markets.

CCI - formed under Competition Act 2002 after removing MRTP Act

Furthering healthy competition

- Reduces possibility of monopolization of market eg Recent Google case disallowed using Google payment mechanism.
- upholds right of consumers to choose & purchase.
- "Reduce Information assymetry" between markets & consumers

- prevents hostile take overs & unfair mergers & acquisitions.
- serves as an body to take up greivances & complaints between companies to settle disputes
  eg Telecom companies Idea & Jio.
- provides highest standards of corporate governance.
  Promotes innovation by allowing free competition without undue influence
- Tries to maintain platform neutrality

Steps more that can be implemented

- spirit of innovation like the ONDC (open network for digital commerce)
- Use of consumer centric company policies to ensure best price discovery.

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Issues with CCI

- Concurrent cases in HCs & SC prevent orders of CCI being passed eg same grievance in multiple courts at same time
- Cool off period for retiring members needs to be increased. (ensure impartiality)
- Orders not binding

Way forward

- Consider giving CCI constitutional status
- make orders final & binding.
- special courts solely for competition related issues currently appeal from CCI → NCLAT (high number of vacancies)

Hence, an open competitive market will benefit consumers as will lead to most efficient product & best price. In this regard CCI is important.

12. "पेड न्यूज का खतरा अक्सर चुनावों के दौरान अपना भयावह रूप दिखाता है।" भारत में पेड न्यूज को एक चुनावी अपराध बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
"The menace of paid news often rears its ugly head during elections." Discuss the need for making paid news an electoral offence in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Paid news is the "false narratives" that are spread by the media to befool the public during times of elections or otherwise in exchange for money.

Media
- Self Regulation expected
- 4th pillar of democracy
- Transparent & Accountability
- source of information
- Ethical Journalism

Need to make paid news offence

→ Abortion of democratic process causes misinformation to spread in society

→ possible use to cause public disharmony, using deep fakes to generate perverse actions against group, sect, religion etc

Against Section 8 (1) & Section 123 of RPA 1951

(3) Accelerates problem of communalism & regionalism

Violent crimes like mob lynching etc have been due to deep fakes & paid news by phony media channels

(4) Can violate mandate of a political party & cause information assymetry between party & the public

→ used to eliminate political competition

(5) Tool for propaganda & lead to loss of deliberative democracy when information provided itself is untrue.

Ways to Counter paid news

- Media Ethics Code & focus on self regulation.
- Dinesh Goswami Committee recommendation on State funding of elections
  - to reduce chances of paid news

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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→ Umesh Sinha committee on bringing digital as well as print media under electoral laws & ECI to collaborate with media to track electoral process

→ Emphasis on role of civil society to actively persuade people to follow authentic sources & inculcate ability of fact checking & source analysis of information provided

→ Upgrading enforcement agencies ability to track paid news & punish media channels under relevant IPC clauses for violation of free speech

Hence, thomas Jefferson said "Information is the currency of democracy" & paid news violates the spirit of authentic & participative democratic polity.

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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13. भारत में धार्मिक प्रथाओं के संदर्भ में, न्यायालयों द्वारा उद्धृत 'अनिवार्यता के सिद्धांत' पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the 'Doctrine of Essentiality' referred to by the courts in the context of religious practices in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Doctrine of Essentiality includes the overarching power of the courts to decide what are "essential tenets of a religion & what are not"

According to SC – only essential tenets are protected under fundamental Rights eg Article 29, 30 etc

Doctrine of Essentiality

→ In spirit of Article 29 that places reasonable restriction on public health, morality

Also gives court right to interfere in ~~section~~ secular functions of the religion. eg financial political etc

↳ Recently, court held that essentially entailed only those practices that were held absolutely essential by the people of that religion.

eg Kirpans yielded by Sikhs are recognized as an essential religious practice.

→ Sabarimala Case, the court used the doctrine to call the discrimination of women from entry as arbitrary

→ Section 3B of the act was called ultra vires

→ Hijab Issue recently, also was decided as not an essential practice & hence not protected by fundamental rights.

उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Issues with doctrine

- Court decides what is essential & what is not.
  Seen as an incursion of courts into the religious beliefs of the people.
- Hinduism considered a synretic religion – many books & traditions difficult to proclaim what is essential & what is not.
- Seen as a judicial overreach that court dictates legislature to make provisions based of such judgements

Way forward

- dissenting opinion of Justice Indira Banerjee that courts of law must give religious freedom to decide their practices
- Constitutional morality & judicial intervention must be well balanced.

4. प्रधान मंत्री की आर्थिक सलाहकार परिषद (EAC-PM) की हाल ही में जारी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में सरकार के आकार को सीमित करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

As per the recently released report of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), there is an urgent need to limit the size of the government in India. Do you agree? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The 91st constitutional ammendment limited the size of government to 15% of the House of people. Yet, the size of the government is felt to be too huge.

Need to limit

- Multiplicity of roles & redundancy eg avenues to fit in opposition or dissenting members to control disaffection.
- heavy public expenditure to provide men, material & assets for work.
- Inefficiencies in communication across departments arise lead to red tapism & "regulatory cholestrol"
- difficulty in holding accountability & passing responsibility around

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↳ division of targets & focus areas across ministries – prevent a holistic & cohesive policy framework

No need to limit

→ Need manpower & policy focus on new & upcoming areas of governance eg New Ministry of Cooperatives.

→ Population of country is huge need high amount of executive members to fulfill duty.

→ Presence of cabinet as most powerful body – then others not so important in political process.

↳ Heavy expenditure can be managed by other aspects like increasing Tax to GDP ratio (17%) & global avg (34%).

उम्मीदवारों इस कॉलम में नहीं लिखें
Candidates must avoid write on this margin

VisionIAS

उम्मीदवारों के इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Way forward

- → focus on effectiveness & outcome rather than economics of administration
- → encourage citizen opinions & participative democracy for public policy feedback eg MyGOV.in etc
- → Use more of mechanisms like GoM (Group of ministers) & Empowered Group of ministers (EGoM) to facilitate quick & efficient decision making
- → decentralization of democracy in spirit of 74th & 75th constitutional ammendments along with giving powers → reduce burden of govt at Centre & State.

Hence, administration must have adequate funds, functions & functionaries but must not be bulky & chaotic.

15. इंस्टीट्यूशंस ऑफ एमिनेंस (IoE) योजना की कल्पना भारत में उच्चतर शिक्षा के 'विश्व स्तरीय' केंद्र विकसित करने के लिए की गई थी, लेकिन छह साल बाद भी, यह अभी तक गेम चेंजर नहीं बन पाई है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme was conceived to develop 'world-class' centres of higher education in India but six years later, it is yet to become the game changer it was intended to be. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Institutions of Eminence scheme facilitated to provide world class state of the art facilities for education, research & learning.

Reasons for not performing

- public expenditure on education is too low around 3% of GDP
  Kothari commission recommended 6%
- Infrastructure & capability is lacking to provide - research equipment etc.
- Indian education system is more oriented toward "middle class aspirations" (Amartya Sen)
  i.e job oriented & exam centric

- public spending on research around 0.6% whereas USA spends around 6% of GDP on research.
- difficulty in finding faculty & teaching staff - lack of incentives with the initiative.

What can be done

- Improve public expenditure on education
- foreign collaboration eg UGC recent guidelines for Foreign Higher education institutes & MoU with Australian University
- promote research & development with active collaboration with Civil Society eg Centre for Science & Research.

उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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people oriented measures

- Inculcate spirit of inquisitiveness in students in spirit of NEP (2020) – "pancakosha"

- Improve foundational level education so that higher education is not an impediment to students

- Innovative & proactive methods
  eg Academic Bank of credit
  Digital University
  & National Research foundation recently formed to improve student learning quality.

Hence, IoE are sine qua non for India to transform into the "Skill capital of the world"

उम्मीदवारों इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखें
Candidates must not write on this margin

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डिजिटल पब्लिक इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर (DPI) नवोन्मेषी और सुविधाजनक सार्वजनिक सेवाओं की अनुमति देता है, समावेशन या पहुंच संबंधी बाधाओं को दूर करने में मदद करता है तथा रियल-टाइम डेटा की मदद से पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही बढ़ाता है। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) allows for innovative and convenient public services, help overcome inclusion or accessibility barriers, and increase transparency and accountability with real-time data. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Digital Public Infrastructure refers to the provision of public goods using the medium of ICT

eg eAadhar, e POS systems, UPI etc.

They used to provide public goods that are → non-excludable
→ non-rivalrous

Innovative & Convenient

→ Aadhar made beneficiary & scheme target identification easier.

→ e Passport, Digi Yatra has made travel easy & convenient.

→ UPI & BHIM have made financial transactions easy & accessible.

→ FASTAGS & e-Chalaan easy & convinient

Overcome inclusion & accessibility

- help remove under/inclusion errors in voters list by e-registration of form 6 to ERO
- Accessibility to payments via offline mechanism eg 123 Pay system
- Inclusion of unorganized sector for labour benefits eg e-Shram Yogi portal

Transparency & Accountability

- filing of RTI can be done online & tracked real time
- Apps like Virtual Justice Clock display real time pendency of cases.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

→ provisions for GST on e-portal for filling Income tax returns by Infosys

→ e-Sarathi portal for getting drivers licence, & registration of vehicles.

→ e-Logs & ULPIN to monitor progress & take up complaint under National Logistics policy

→ SCORES portal – SEBI for grievance redressal etc.

Hence digital public infrastructure has some threats :-

(1) Data & privacy issues. – (eg) leakage of adhar
(2) Tracking of individual data
(3) Digital inclusion is low only 10%
(4) Infrastructure is not prevalent

Way forward → Common Services Centres revamped
→ Digi Banking Units – made accessible etc.

17. कानून के अलावा, भारत में 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार' की पूर्ण प्राप्ति हेतु सामाजिक, वित्तीय और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमियों को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Besides legislation, the full realisation of the 'right to health for all' in India demands plugging of social, financial, and infrastructural gaps. Examine. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Supreme Court in Bandhua Mukti Morcha Case held that Right to Health is an important aspect of right to life.

Social gaps
- Hesitancy of people to visit doctors – fear of expenditure
- low penetration of health insurance (6% only)
- more of curative & rehabilitative care not much of preventive care

Financial gaps
- Heavy out of pocket expenditure in health (around 63%)
- private hospitals expensive & unaffordable for most
- low public expenditure on health only 2.5% of GDP (3% recommended by Sreenath Committee)

Infrastructural gaps

- 81% doctors in private
- 53% hospitals are private
- 80% PHCs less than 1 doctor.
- most hospitals in urban areas
- shortage of supplies, beds, drugs etc
- poor ability to provide tertiary & secondary care.

Ways to fix

(1) Sreenath Committee recomendations

- Increase tax to GDP to fund health expenditure
- Public expenditure to be increased in health.

(2) follow Brazilian model – made right to Health explicit fundamental right.

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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→ provisions for heath insurance under schemes like PM AYUSH (5 lakh per family per year)

→ focus on preventive care to reduce future burden eg vaccinations under Mission Indradhanush, address Hidden Hunger - millets etc.

→ Improve infrastructure of Primary Health Care Centres & ensure doctor availaibility.

Way forward → make health priority to ensure active & productive workforce

↳ e-pharma & medical tourism to generate additional revenue

विधायी समर्थन के बावजूद 'थर्ड जेंडर' को अभी तक भारतीय समाज में मान्यता नहीं मिली है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The 'third gender' has not yet been engendered in the Indian society despite legislative nudge. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्षेत्र में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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The third gender or "transgender" have been accorded rights to determine their own gender by supreme Court in NALSA Case.

Transgender as per law → any person that does not confirm to the gender identity assigned to them at birth.

Legislative nudge

- National council for Transgenders established
- provisions for inclusion as beneficiary in social schemes
- right to employment & be hired

- right to vote have been extended to the third gender.

Reason for not being engendered

- Societal stigma as people consider them to be carriers of diseases like AIDS etc
- Resistance to "non-traditional" family in Indian society.
- fear of social ostracization on interacting with transgender people.

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उम्मेदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Way forward

- Role of celebrities to embrace the reform & help change perception of masses.
- Active participation of civil society to uplift & aid the efforts for transgender empowerment
- Schemes like SMILE scheme, vocational training, employment opportunities.

These things will help incorporation of 3rd gender in society.

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19. अन्य कारकों के अलावा, चीन और पाकिस्तान के साथ तनावपूर्ण संबंधों ने भारत के लिए शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) से अपनी अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करना कठिन बना दिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Among other factors, strained ties with China and Pakistan make it difficult for India to fulfill its expectations from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Shanghai Cooperation organization is looked at as an alternative to NATO in global politics.

Members
- Russia
- India
- Uzbekisthan
- Kyrgyzthan
- Tajikisthan
- Kazakhisthan
- Iran
- China
- Pakistan

} good relations with India

} against India

Make difficult fulfill expectations

(1) Indias role in RATS against Counter terrorism contradicted by

Pakistan's policy of "terror export" & "1000 cuts"

↳ slowdown progress in countering terrorism

(2) Interbank Consortium at SCO sees dominance of Chinese players

↳ affect India's ability to raise capital.

(3) Access to Central Asia & growing China - Russia nexus

↳ cause of worry for India.

(4) China's Beijing Accord and Russia's Socialist ideology - hurt India's credibility in open avenues like QUAD

→ Chinese "wolf warrior diplomacy" & "salami slicing" problem for India

उम्मीदवारों को इस मार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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(5) Energy trade & pipeline eg TAPI are stalled because of Pakistan's aggressive attitude

Way forward → 3 U's resolved (S. Jaishankar)
- unsettled borders
- unintegrated region
- unexploited opportunities

- follow multilateral approach leverage the convergent & manage the competition ("India Way" - S. Jaishankar)
- tackle Pakistan & China strategically using International fora eg UN, QUAD.
- ensure stakeholder consensus in neighbourhood as per Gujral doctrine of Neighbourhood first policy

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत के बीच महत्वपूर्ण एवं उभरती प्रौद्योगिकी (iCET) पर हाल ही में संपन्न पहल, प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में इनकी साझेदारी में लंबे समय से प्रतीक्षित परिवर्तन का वादा करती है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recently concluded initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) between the United States and India promises a long overdue transformation of their partnership in the field of technology. Examine. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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iCET encompasses upcoming technology like semiconductor, Blockchain, AI & all other technologies under Industrial Revolution 4.0

Partnership in field

(1) Necessary to counter Chinese dominance of lithium products eg 80% lithium ion batteries from China.

(2) Supply Chain resilience & strategic autonomy important in terms of rare earth & semiconductor chips

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(3) Chances for technology transfer & greater amount of FDI in India as a hub of manufacturing

{Currently India 2nd largest smartphone manufacturing country}

highest FDI this year – $88 Billion

(4) Help move towards green tech by aiding R&D & manufacture of e-vehicles

(40% cost of eVehicles are due to electronic components)

(5) Critical technologies will demand employment opportunities & skilled workforce.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Challenges → only 5% workforce formally skilled

- Infrastructure bottlenecks
- IPR challenges – uniform policy needed

Way forward

- ensure skilling of population to utilize technology eg QUEST for quantum computing
  - → IndiChain for blockchain (NITI Aayog)
  - → ISM (Indian semiconductor mission)
  - → SemiCon – PM said 3 lakh jobs be generated
- work on establishing indigenous manufacturing capabilities eg PLI for design & fabrication production

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